WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 1 | THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION | MAY 2003

When Democracy Failed: The Warnings of History

Thom Hartmann

The 70th anniversary wasn't noticed in the United States, and was barely reported in the corporate media. But the Germans remembered well that fateful day seventy years ago - February 27, 1933. They commemorated the anniversary by joining in demonstrations for peace that mobilized citizens all across the world.

It started when the government, in the midst of a worldwide economic crisis, received reports of an imminent terrorist attack. A foreign ideologue had launched feeble attacks on a few famous buildings, but the media largely ignored his relatively small efforts. The intelligence services knew, however, that the odds were he would eventually succeed. (Historians are still arguing whether or not rogue elements in the intelligence service helped the terrorist; the most recent research implies they did not.)

But the warnings of investigators were ignored at the highest levels, in part because the government was distracted; the man who claimed to be the nation's leader had not been elected by a majority vote and the majority of citizens claimed he had no right to the powers he coveted. He was a simpleton, some said, a cartoon character of a man who saw things in black-and-white terms and didn't have the intellect to understand the subtleties of running a nation in a complex and internationalist world. His coarse use of language - reflecting his political roots in a southernmost state - and his simplistic and often-inflammatory nationalistic rhetoric offended the aristocrats, foreign leaders, and the well-educated elite in the government and media. And, as a young man, he'd joined a secret society with an occult-sounding name and bizarre initiation rituals that involved skulls and human bones.

(continued page 8)

Women in Black

We are the Women in Black and we are against all violence.
We speak loudly by standing together in silence.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We started in Israel in 1988 to protest Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.
We have since spread to fight injustice all over the world.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We speak many languages
And profess many faiths.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We face the oncoming traffic, leaving our backs unprotected.
We show our strength by allowing ourselves to be vulnerable.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We catch insulting words and gestures, acts of violence,
And let them slide harmlessly away to dissipate in the quietness that surrounds us.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

Do not fear us; listen to our message.
We threaten only fear and ignorance.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We wear black to mourn the victims of violent acts,
Both the actors and the targets.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We reclaim the night and human rights.
We are peacefully motivated women who will change the world.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

As each vigil ends, we gather in a circle
Where the spiritual energy flows so powerfully more than rain runs down our cheeks.
We are a shocking and awesome sight.

We are the Women in Black.
We are a profound and moving sight.
-March 2003, Women in Black, Olympia, Washington, USA

Mourning the dead.
Standing for nonviolence.
Olympia • Fridays • 5-6 pm • Percival Landing

ATTENTION WIP READERS

A few facts about
Works In Progress (WIP)
YOU are WIP
WIP is YOU

Works In Progress belongs to the community. Works In Progress is what the community makes it.

The articles that appear in WIP are there because the community wrote them.

The articles that do not appear in WIP aren't there because the community didn't write them or didn't publish them in WIP.

If you would like to see more pictures and artwork in Works in Progress, please take more pictures, and create more artwork and then publish your work.

WIP does not have a staff.

About 4 or 5 people currently do all the production of WIP. Several other people help with distribution. We are unable to keep this level of involvement over an extended period of time. We need other community members to do some of the work.

WIP currently needs: Editor(s), Coordinator(s), and proofreaders

If you read WIP and notice grammatical and spelling errors-Please notice them before WIP goes to print! So they can be corrected. If certain sentences jump out at you when you read-Help us choose Pull Quotes. This will only take 1 to 2 hours a month.

Please also look for ads throughout the paper for other ways you can get involved.

TO SUBMIT TO WIP

Photos and Graphics

If it is possible please scan non-digital images and save them as TIFF images at 300dpi. We prefer TIFF but can use almost any format. If you are unable to scan them let us know and we can arrange to scan them for you.

Please provide your name and contact info if possible, and a brief description of the image(s), such as the event, location, and date the photos were taken.

Articles and announcements

If it is possible we prefer plain text documents (.txt), but we can use many other formats, such as Word (.doc). Article lengths should generally be 1300 words or less, this is not a strict cut off, but it is our preferred length.

Please provide the authors name and contact info if possible, as well as the title you would like to use, and the date it was written, if relevant

Please send your work to:
wip@olywa.net
or
P.O. Box 295
Olympia WA 98507

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/ black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! Or you aren't submitting it!

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Dave Campbell
Chelsea Chase
Sebastian Chase
Renee Cruickshank
Megan Davis
Teresa Jennings
Jerome Johnson
Kayden
Margaret Love
Sandy Mayes
Hali Panneton
Jeff Sowers
Sylvia Smith
Pat Tassoni

Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Governing Tool:

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

Friday, May 23rd

The June issue of WIP will be available starting May 30th

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Announcements, etc.

The YMCA Earth Service Corps (YESC) is hosting the **Olympia Youth Activist Convergence** Friday, May 9th, 7-9pm at Traditions Cafe in Downtown Olympia.

This event will bring together youth organizations from all over the Thurston County area to highlight their efforts in working for a better environment and more sustainable and just communities. YESC is seeking youth groups to come and share what they have been doing to make their community and the world a better place.

For example, YESC will be screening a work-in-progress of their documentary film on the elders of Olympia's environmental community, Komachin Middle School Students will show their student-produced recycling video and youth from South Sound Clean Clothes Campaign will highlight their work towards sweatshop-free city uniforms.

Whether your project is the environment, peace activism, or social justice, this is your chance to come out and show the community your efforts and network to help your cause.

YESC also plans to have youth bands, speakers, food, and of course, a host of youth and community groups to learn about. For more information or to register your group, call Rochelle Gause or David Edwards at 357-6609 or email ssyesc@juno.com. Hope to see you there!

Friday May 2 - Bicycle Commuter Contest Registration Deadline. Get your registration form for the Bicycle Commuter Contest to Climate Solutions, 610 E. 4th Ave., Olympia, by 5:00 P.M! E-mail us at bikecommute@climatesolutions.org.

BEFORE YOU FORGET, GET INVOLVED! (SEE BELOW)

14th ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN

June 25 through June 29,

The Evergreen State College Longhouse, Olympia, WA

With the theme, 'Realizing our Power and Using our Voices', this year's school will look critically at labor and community alliances, the right to organize in the workplace, and how the economy looks to different groups of workers. Some of the featured workshops include Environmental Health and Safety, Organizing through Diversity, Creative Organizing to Mobilize Union Members, and Effective Communication with Practice. Participants will share their personal stories of struggles through poems, music and skits.

YOUNG WORKERS: ORGANIZING OUR FUTURE CONFERENCE.

Saturday, May 17th, 9:00 AM to 5 PM, Tacoma, WA

This is one-day conference to be held at The Evergreen State College Tacoma campus for union members under the age of 30.

It will provide young workers the opportunity to discuss with each other their experiences as workers and union members. There will be break-out workshops on various topics, including Union and Workplace Rights, Communication Strategies with older members and with each Other, Finding a Common Vision as Young People, Union Basics and Labor History and Creative Organizing Strategies to Getting People Fired up. Our goal is to start addressing basic concerns and misunderstanding young workers have about the labor movement.

Conference registration fee is $40/ person and includes lunch and material

For further information on the Young Workers Conference and the Summer School, contact coordinator Lucilene Whitesell at (360) 867-6055 or through email at whitesel@evergreen.edu. You can also download the registration forms from our web site at www.evergreen.edu/laborcenter.

(continued page 11)

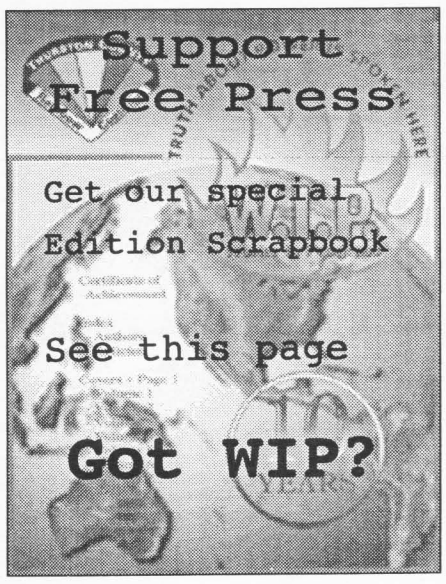
Only You Can Keep WIP Going for Another 13 Years

Subscriptions: ☐ Individual ... $35 ☐ Low-Income ...$15

Merchandise: ☐ WIP Flame LogoT-Shirt . . . $15 each; # _____ size(s)_____

☐ WIP 10-year Retrospective Scrapbook . . . $15 each

☐ Catalog/Index Listing...$1; back issues...$1/each



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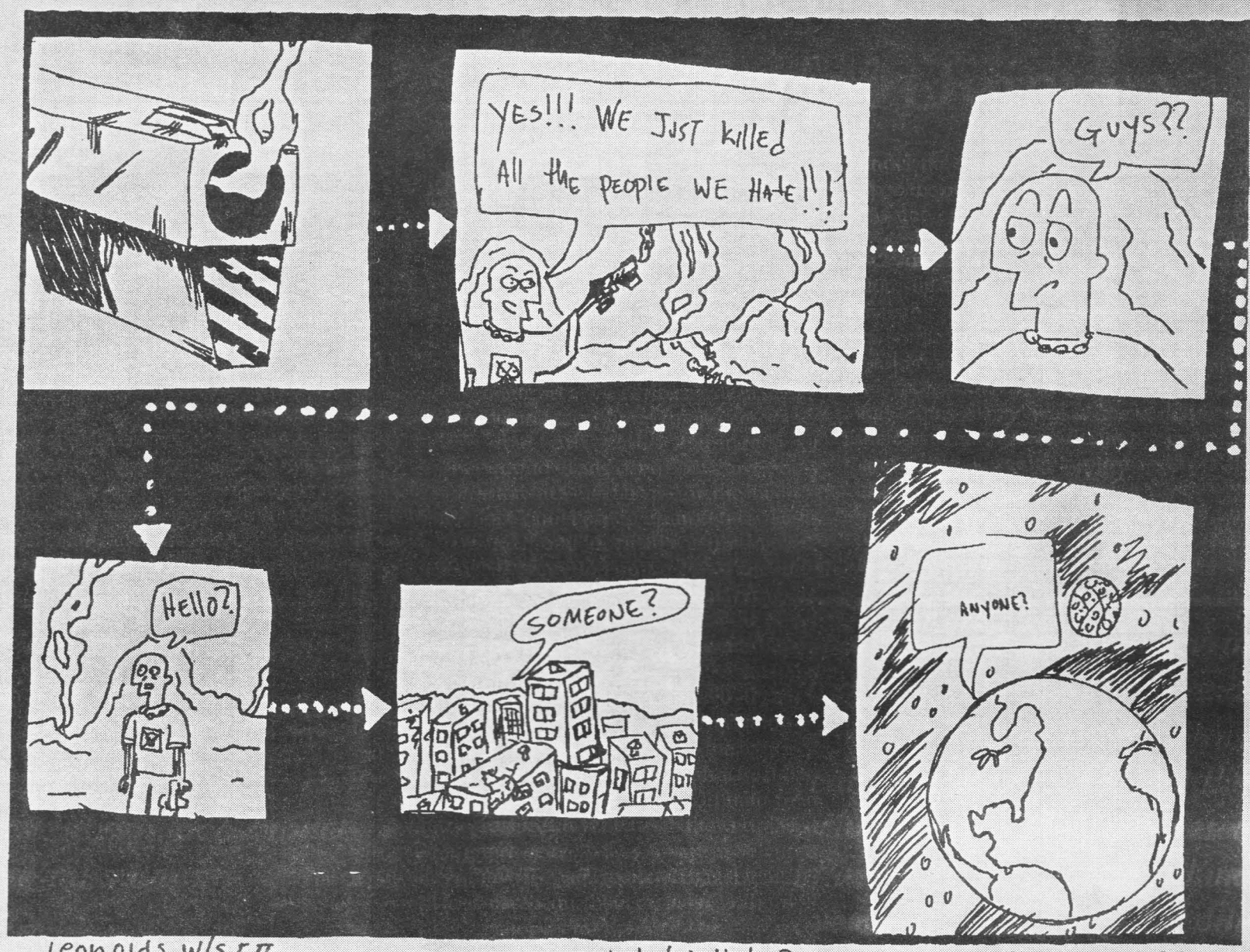
MAY 2003



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The Western arrogance of feeling that it has everything to teach others and nothing to learn from them is not just. A true revolution of values will lay hands on the world order and say of war: "This way of settling differences is not just." **Martin Luther King**				**1** 2002: Israel end 34-day siege of Arafat's HQ 2002: WA poor spend less time on assistance, yet struggle to pay for food, housing, utilities	**2** 1933: Adolf Hitler abolishes labor unions throughout Germany 2002: US approves stiff tariffs on Canadian softwood lumber	**3** 2002: 18 Evergreen students and 1 faculty member are expelled from Mexico for taking part in May Day parade/protest
4 1886: The Haymarket Square Riot 1999: US Senate fails to give Clinton authority to use "all necessary force" in Kosovo	**5** 1998: Baltimore school officials report black sixth-graders on a field trip were denied service at a Denny's in Ocoee, Florida	**6** 2002: Cuba, Libya , Syria accused of wanting weapons of mass destruction 2002: Sugar pills = to antidepressant drugs	**7** 2002: Sharon leaves DC talks, blames suicide bombing on Arafat 2002: Nisqually blame WA for Dungeness crab poaching devastation in	**8** 1958: Vice-Pres. Nixon pelted w/fruit, eggs, stones in Lima, Peru 2002: Israel approves military operations against "terrorists"	**9** 2002: Israel moved tanks toward the Gaza 2002: New INS Internet-based reporting system to monitor foreign college students	**10** 1963: Pope John XXIII receives the Balzan Peace Prize 2002: Israel ends 5-week siege of Church of the Nativity
11 1996: ValuJet Airlines Inc. DC-9 jetliner carrying 104 passengers and crew of five crash in the Everglades killing all on board	**12** 2002: Carter arrives in Cuba. "...as friends of the Cuban people" 2002: Israel's ruling party rejects independent Palestinian state	**13** 1999: China's president accuses US of seeking global dominance, urges nations to defy American bullying and create a new just order	**14** 2002: Bush signs new law clamping down on foreign students, track entry/exit of foreign visitors, shares info between fed agencies	**15** 2002: Miller Brewery spills wastewater into Deschutes River 2002: Puget Sound among nation's worst for levels of diesel soot	**16** 2002: Israel imprisons WSU student for trying to enter Church of the Nativity during siege 2002: Personal bankruptcies risen by 15%	**17** 1954: Supreme Court rules school segregation unconstitutional 2002: Evergreen picks Joycelyn Elders as graduation speaker
18 1998: Government files antitrust case against Microsoft 1999: Pres. Clinton says ground troops a possibility	**19** 2002: Cheney says "future attack on the U.S. are almost a certainty" 2002: US special Forces soldier killed in Afghanistan	**20** 1961 Mob attacked Freedom Riders in Montgomery 2002: FBI director says it's "inevitable" suicide bombers will strike US	**21** 2002: Fed judge okays lawsuit claiming discrimination by Boeing as a class action 2002: Boeing lays off 1,350 in Puget Sound	**22** 2002: Missing intern Chandra Levy's body is found in a Washington DC park 2002: US Senate issues Enron subpoenas	**23** 2002: Bush tells Putin cut nuclear ties w/ Iran 2002: Joint Chiefs of Staff persuade White House to put off Iraq invasion until 2003	**24** 2000: Locke launches his re-election campaign at Safeco field claiming "education ...will continue to be my highest priority."
25 1998: New Indonesia president pledges to hold open elections 2000: New federal plan splits Microsoft Corporation into thirds	**26** 1937: Ford Co. police brutally beat Walter Reuther/Richard Frakensteen while handing out pamphlets at River Rouge plant	**27** 1998: Intel announces shut down of Dupont factory; laying off 650 1999: International War Crimes Tribunal indicts Milosevic	**28** 1955: Albert Whitehouse, director of United Steelworkers, claims automation of US factories will lead to 2-hour work day	**29** 2002: Philip Morris sells Miller Brewing for $5.6 billion 2002: FBI dir. admits failure to investigate "red flags" before 9-11	**30** 30, 2002: World Trade Center clean up ends 30, 2002: Ashcroft urges FBI to collect info easily gathered in public places	**31** 2002: US warns all Americans in India to leave the country due to mounting tensions between India and Pakistan

Stop Them Before They Kill Again

Ron Jacobs

It wasn't but three or four hours after the statue of Saddam Hussein waspulled down by the US Marines (and a few dozen Iraqi extras) in the center of Baghdad before the maddest man on the Potomac, Donald Rumsfeld, issued a warning to the nation of Syria. In effect, Rumsfeld told Syria that its fate would be the same as the Iraqis unless it did his bidding. Further remarks from Rumsfeld and Colin Powell have clarified this threat while simultaneously ratcheting it up. According to the words of the Bush Imperium, Syria is harboring former members of Saddam's government, has chemical weapons, and aided the old Iraqi military in its ill-fated battle with the US Army, Air Force and Marines. Nobody in the ruling oligarchy down in Washington, D.C. has presented one shred of evidence for these accusations, nor does it seem likely that they plan on doing so any time soon. One can safely assume (based on their presentation of "evidence" against Hussein's Iraq) that they haven't manufactured the evidence they need yet.

Meanwhile, Damascus insists that it has no chemical weapons and has no intention of developing them, and that it has not knowingly harbored any former members of Saddam Hussein's government. It does acknowledge that some may have fled to Syria and may be hiding there, but has stated repeatedly that these Iraqis are in Syria (if they are in Syria) of their own volition and without the help of the government in Damascus. Interestingly, the Yemeni government provided asylum to a former Iraqi diplomat on April 13th without a single comment from Washington.

When it comes to providing asylum to government officials who are wanted for crimes against their own people, the United States has certainly compiled a stellar list of its own in this category. Ask the people of Vietnam where the torturers trained by the CIA went. Or how about the former head of the Saigon government, Nguyen Van Thieu, who fled with millions of dollars worth of gold and moved to California. Maybe we could ask the Iranian people about the American puppet and torture chief, Shah Reza Pahlavi? If Washington hadn't been so insistent on helping him flee justice in Iran, it is quite likely that the Embassy hostages would never have been taken and US-Iranian relations would be on a friendlier basis. Indeed, I would probably not be writing this piece. Unfortunately, we can't rewrite history. Syria is an urbane and fairly advanced technological society. Its civilization is older than the Bible. Like Iraq, its major source of revenue is oil, although its resources are considerably smaller than other Middle Eastern nations. Its economy is socialistic in nature, although in recent years it has adopted some free market reforms. After World War One and the defeat of the Ottomans by the British and other allied forces, it was an independent nation for a brief time. In 1920, it was made a French mandate, much in the same manner that Iraq was made a British one. To put it simply, when the victors of the First World War divided the spoils, Syria went to France. After the Second World War, it became an independent nation that merged with Egypt and Yemen in 1958 to form the short-lived United Arab Republic under the tutelage of the Arab nationalist Gamal Abdel-Nasser. Upon the breakup of the Republic, Syria once again became a separate country.

Since that time, it has fought two wars with Israel, taken part in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, supported the US-Kuwaiti position during the first Gulf War (even providing 20,000 troops to the effort) and agreed to various US proposals for peace with Israel that began in 1991. Those peace talks broke off in 1996 and resumed in December 1999. After what appeared to be initial progress, the negotiations stalled in January 2000, when a secret draft treaty with Syrian concessions was published in Israel, leading to a public hardening of Syria's position with respect to the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. The Golan is Syrian land that was captured by Israel in the 1967 war. It is part of the territory that the UN has ordered Israel to return under Resolution 242 and is currently the site of several illegal Israeli settlements. In 2000, Hafez al-Assad, the leader of Syria, died and was replaced by his son, Ba'ashar. Since the 1967 war and the Israeli occupation of the Golan (along with the West Bank and Gaza), Syria has helped a number of Palestinian resistance groups by providing them with office space and a place to train. Foremost among these groups is the popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). This assistance has kept Syria near the top of Israel's enemies list. Consequently, it has also remained near the top of Washington's list, as well. If Israel and Washington have their way, there is nothing Damascus can do or say short of surrender that would prevent a war. This is exactly the same scenario the world saw unfold in Iraq. Since it worked so well there, one can project that Washington will use it again.

Already, suggestions are emanating from the Pentagon and US State Department that sanctions be levied against Syria. As the world knows, this has become a step towards war. In what should probably be perceived as an attempt to head off armed conflict, spokespeople for the Syrian government have already suggested that they would open up their weapons production and stockpiles to any UN inspections regime. Indeed, as we learned in Iraq, this is another step on the way to war. In Washington's mind, sanctions and inspections are merely the opening forays in a process that will weaken a government to the point where it will either forsake its sovereignty and surrender, or it will go to war no matter what the odds. In short, sanctions and inspections are the first shots fired across the bow. They are no longer a prelude to war, they are part of war itself.

If the global antiwar movement does not want to see another exercise in mass murder and imperial destruction, it must insist that no sanctions be levied against Syria. Ideally, it should also insist that any inspections of Syrian WMD capabilities be accompanied by comparable inspections in the United States, Israel and every other country that supports the US actions against Damascus. This is not a question of supporting the past totalitarian excesses of the government of Syria, nor does it even mean supporting the current regime. It only means, and this is most important, that we oppose the unwarranted threats and unfounded accusations against Syria. They are nothing but a pretext for a war that should not occur. As the past few weeks have proven, the primary threat to peace in the Middle East is not Syria or Iran, it is the United States.

Amma is the current recipient of the prestigious **Gandhi-King Award for Non-Violence**, presented at the United Nations in Geneva.

"... her hug is meant to impart divine inspiration."
–The New York Times

FREE PROGRAMS
June 5, 2003
10 am & 7:30 pm

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RETREAT* registration required
June 6 - 8, 2003

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The State of Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, people of all ages in Washington have developed a condition known as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) as a result of a single massive exposure or repeated low level exposures to toxic chemicals and other irritants in the environment; and

WHEREAS, MCS is recognized by the World Health Organization, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Environmental Protection Agency, as well as other state and federal government agencies and commissions which have supported the health and welfare of the chemically injured; and

WHEREAS, MCS is a chronic condition for which there is no known cure, and which symptoms include chronic fatigue, muscle and joint pains, rashes, asthma, headaches and other respiratory and neurological problems; and

WHEREAS, MCS can cause major financial, employment, housing, health and social consequences for people who have this disability; and

WHEREAS, reasonable accommodations and information about recognition of MCS can provide opportunities for people with this disability to enjoy access to work, schooling, public facilities and other settings where they can continue to contribute their professional skills, ideas, creativity, abilities and knowledge; and

WHEREAS, people with MCS need the support and cooperation of family, friends, co-workers and society as they manage their condition and adapt to new life styles;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Locke, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2003 as

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Month

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to support understanding, education and research of MCS.

Signed this 17th day of April, 2003

Governor Gary Locke

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After the Trial: Plowshares II Sisters Await Sentencing

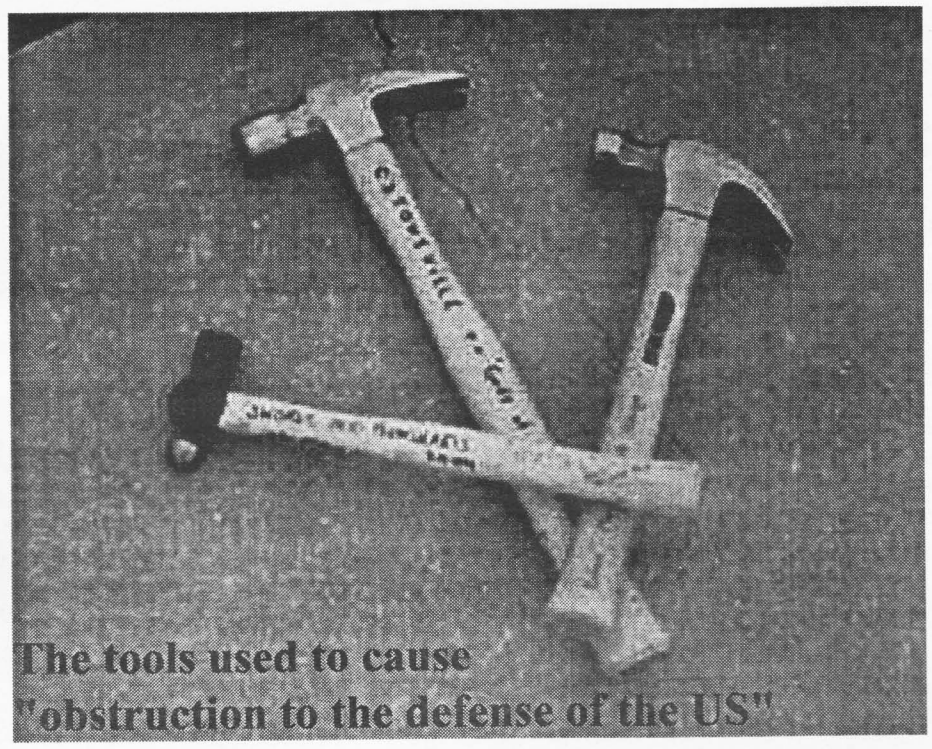
Holly Gwinn Graham

On April 7, 2003, Dominican Sisters Jackie Hudson, Carol Gilbert, and Ardeth Platte were convicted of sabotage and injury, interference and obstruction to the defense of the US by their symbolic act of civil disobedience at a Colorado nuclear Minuteman III missile silo.

Surrounded by supporters from all over the country during the trial, the three women and their lawyers made their case despite Judge Robert Blackburn's bias and refusal to admit into evidence their defense, including Nuremberg Principles and rules of international law. Blackburn time and again made concessions to the prosecution, giving unclear and misleading directions to the jury before their deliberations even as they asked about the finer points of the charges against the women.

Even the prosecution said the nun's symbolic action was not sabotage or depredation, and the prosecution's own Air Force witnesses said the action did not interfere with, injure or obstruct the national defense. During the trial, Jackie, Carol, and Ardeth each addressed the jury, thanking them for doing the best they could with the instructions they had been given. They also said that they were sorry that the jury had not been able to hear all the evidence. They sang a blessing to the jury as it left the room.

Nevertheless, twelve woefully under-informed jurors returned with verdicts of guilty.



The tools used to cause "obstruction to the defense of the US"

"They ask that all efforts on their behalf by supporters, be aimed at getting this message out...the use of and threat to use nuclear weapons is a crime!"

The pronouncement of the guilty verdict electrified the courtroom. "This is a kangaroo court," shouted Susan Crane, a supporter of the nuns who quilted during last week's trial. "Shame on this court." Two U.S. marshals hauled her out of the courtroom on orders from the judge.

The sisters stood in their orange jail jumpsuits and began singing "Rejoice in the Lord above, again I say rejoice." Ardeth Platte faced the jury and made the sign of the cross. She did again to the judge, to the prosecutor and to the approximately 40 spectators who packed the gallery.

Carol Gilbert shouted to the jury, "We will not be found guilty under international law and God's law."

Jury forewoman Terrah McNellis, 25, of Denver, said the six-man, six-woman jury followed the law and not its collective heart. "We all agree with their politics," McNellis said in an interview with the Denver Post. "Nobody in the U.S. wants nuclear weapons, but you have to demonstrate lawfully."

"Free speech is the first casualty of war. I'm bitterly disappointed with the people running this court," said defense attorney Walter Gerash, who clashed several times with Blackburn during the trial. "We had two Air Force colonels testify that the nuns never interfered with national defense or the operation of the Minuteman III missile."

"We knew the forces, the powers were against us," Ardeth said in an interview later from jail. "We weren't surprised by the verdicts. We got back to the jail and turned on the television, which had all the pictures of children being killed in Iraq. This is all wrong. You can't drop a bomb on a city and kill children. This is exactly our defense. Those missiles are on high alert."

Ardeth said she does not expect U.S. District Judge Robert Blackburn to show lenience at the sentencing. Having already spent six months behind bars, Ardeth said, "It's really, really hard. It's sacred time, but difficult sacred time." She said the three are responding to thousands of letters and are trying to "motivate people to get out into the streets, to continue our ongoing civil disobedience."

For this vague and still clearly undefined charge, Jackie, Carol and Ardeth face a minimum 8-9 year sentence in prison. They ask that all efforts on their behalf by supporters be aimed at getting this message out...the use of and threat to use nuclear weapons is a crime! The US needs to be held to these laws, as should all other countries in the world.

Anabel Dwyer, the lawyer who coordinated the defense for the Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares II trial, released the following statement on April 14th:

"According to President Bush, "Evil tyrants threaten to use weapons of mass destruction and ignore international law."

Three increasingly famous Dominican Sisters, Carol Gilbert, Jackie Hudson and Ardeth Platte agreed. They acted to nonviolently inspect unacceptable tyrannical behavior by the U.S. here at home. They prayerfully poured their blood in the form of crosses on the cement missile cover of a first-strike 300-kiloton nuclear missile on high alert. They lowered 32 feet of perimeter fence to nonviolently expose ongoing U.S. attempts and threats to commit war crimes and genocide with the Minuteman III, N-8.

The Nuns today filed motions showing that all the evidence at their trial, clear errors in the jury instruction, prosecutorial misconduct and jury-tainting require either a Judgment of Acquittal, a New Trial, or a Judgment for a Mistrial.

The measure of the rule of law in this "free and democratic" country is at stake and the prosecutor has not "won" even by his and the court's interpretation of the rules.

The Court's Judgment of Acquittal in the Nuns' case could settle this matter reasonably based on the sworn testimony at trial. Even the Government's Sentencing Statement of Facts, also filed today, shows no evidence of sabotage or felony depredation.

The prosecutor brought a sabotage charge apparently to make a felony out of the nonviolent symbolic acts of the Sisters. The Nuns caused no "damage" that could reasonably reach $1000.

The Sisters' blood did no damage or injury to the silo cover or tracks. The Air Force personnel testified that they are paid a salary in part to routinely clean the silo site of debris. The part of the fence that the Air Force replaced, after the Sisters carefully lowered 32 feet for public exposure, was already in stock. Regular Air Force employees whose job involves repairing perimeter fences quickly repaired it.

So why the obvious injustice of seeking 5 to 8 year prison sentences for three Sisters' straightforward good-faith act of civil resistance? Why such viciousness against Nuns who objectively intended to expose in a well-measured manner, what they knew to be a grossly illegal and criminal threat or attempt to use a horrific weapon of mass destruction?

These women do indeed have extraordinary courage and research abilities of the sort it takes to face the intended and horrific effects of the Minuteman III, N-8. They realized that any threat or use of such a weapon is grossly immoral and politically, economically and environmentally suicidal.

"Threat or use of this weapon of mass destruction is just as illegal and criminal by the U.S. as by anyone else. Complete nuclear disarmament is a legal, treaty-based obligation of the US and all countries and can only reasonably occur non-violently one weapon at a time," said Ardeth Platte.

If acquittal is not granted, a new trial or mistrial must occur. Might does not make right under our legal system. The law is what we the people have agreed it is and at least on October 6, 2002, we did not agree that US and international law permitted anyone, including us, any threat or use of a hideous and indiscriminate weapon like the Minuteman III, N-8.

COMMENTARY ON THE LANGUAGE OF POLITICS AND JEWS

Meryl Bernstein

Many jewish people in our community who are working for peace are experiencing mixed and confusing emotions. While they abhorr violence toward Palestinians, the language used by others raises the potential for jews to feel alienated and isolated. As many local activists speak out against Israel, especially after Rachel Corrie's death, it is crucial to be aware of the oversimplification of issues and the fine line separating anti-Israeli versus anti-jewish language... anti-Semitism. This is not to say that any criticism of Israel is anti-Semitic. Instead, similar to the concerted effort not to equate anti-Taliban sentiments with anti-muslim or anti-Afgani mentality, it is critical to be specific in one's language - whether the issue is the Israeli administration, the Israeli Defense Forces, etc - that is, to differentiate the actions, parties and politics from Israel and/or jews in general. (There is a much larger percentage of dissent in Israel about their government's policies and tactics than there is in the U.S. towards our own government.) By drawing relevant distinctions, we may help alleviate tensions while allowing for a more informed discussion.

The history of the most recent jewish genocide is so vivid in jewish collective psyche that many are easily triggered into survival mode, which may mean withdrawal or defense. It has been said that you cannot expect jews to denounce Israel. Israel is the only country in the world a jewish person who is threatened could rely on for safehaven. There is a history to be informed of and complexity to be aware of. These things do not preclude the desire of most jews for an immediate end to all violence.

To include jews in the on-going Peace movement, we need to be aware of and educate ourselves about the sensitive issues jews face. If you truly want to know what the struggles are, lean forward and ask - then be willing to listen. There is no ONE jewish community here to consolidate into one point of view. The more voices heard, the more understanding and allyship will take place among us, and the stronger our movement will be for peace and justice.

The Iraq Situation

Erich Albrecht

The Bush administration is pushing the war in Iraq into it's next phase, a military-industrial occupation authority, as US troops further saturate Iraq with their presence daily, looting continues and Saddam's whereabouts remain unknown. The plan is for Iraq to be split into three regions -- northern, southern and greater Baghdad regions – to be governed by US viceroys and handpicked Iraqis.

Retired Army General Jay Garner will soon fill his appointed position of chief of the Pentagon's Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance, which will coordinate the reconstruction and democratization effort in Iraq. Garner led the Kurdish refugee campaign Operation Provide Comfort in 1991, giving him popularity among the Kurds in northern Iraq, who reportedly did not want him to leave. He retired from the military in 1997 and began work in the military industry.

Until January of this year, just before Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld appointed him to his current position, he worked for SY Coleman Corporation (formerly SY Tech. Inc.). SY Coleman makes components for the Arrow and Patriot missile defense systems, which have been used extensively in Iraq. Furthermore as The Nation reports SY Coleman's parent company L-3 Communications, has recently been awarded a $1.5 billion contract to provide logistical services on the Iraqi frontlines. The same article asserts that he "remains the paid president of this defense company, which makes components for logistical and surveillance products deployed all over Iraq."

Another source of concern about Garner is his ties to Israel, where he signed a statement blaming Palestinians for the violence in Israel. He made the inflammatory statement that "Israel has exercised remarkable restraint in the face of lethal violence orchestrated by the leadership of a Palestinian authority", that will stir reactions from Arabs

Garner is just one of many conflicts of interests haunting the White House's reconstruction of Iraq. Former CIA director James Woolsey will likely be assigned the top position in the information ministry. If Woolsey "pops up in Baghdad, you can bet that the 'clash of civilizations is imminent, if it has not already begun," wrote political analyst Jim Lobe in an Inter Press Service article. At a NATO conference in Prague last November he declared "the fourth world war is going to be for the Middle East." Violence will be his method of maintaining authority if he acts on his belief that "Only fear will re-establish respect for the US," as he told the Washington Post.

While Garner represents the shady connection between military industry and military procedure, and Woolsey represents open involvement by the US intelligence community in setting up governments, there are other figures in the occupation authority. US Ambassador to Yemen Barbara Bodine will be viceroy to Baghdad, is described by The Observer as having "fervent hostility towards a politically organized Muslim world." Former CEO of Shell Philip E. Carrol, who recently retired as CEO of the Fluor Corporation -- a construction company singled out by the Pentagon for contracts rebuilding Iraq -- may be appointed to oversee oil production. Retired General Buck Walters wili be US viceroy to the southern region, while General Bruce Moore will govern the largely Kurdish northern region.

The entire operation is under the command of the Pentagon, which means it is under the guidance of Donald Rumsfeld, his deputy Paul Wolfowitz and his undersecretary Douglas Feith. They are the architects of the invasion of Iraq and they have deep ties to both the arms industry and to Ariel Sharon's right-wing Likud party. These factors in conjunction to their fondness of Ahmed Al-Chalabi and the Iraqi National Congress (INC) as potential leaders in Iraq will cause conflict.

"Another source of concern about Garner is his ties to Israel, where he signed a statement blaming Palestinians for the violence in Israel."

Ahmed Al-Chalabi, a leader in the INC, has been offered a position in the finance ministry, even though the State Dept. and the CIA both oppose him having influence in the new Iraqi government. Still many believe he will be the next Iraqi to rule the nation. He left Iraq in 1958, so has little support within the country. Al-Jazeera has reported that "ordinary Iraqis are unlikely to accept rule by foreigners," which may include "members of the Iraqi opposition who have lived abroad most of their lives." This includes Chalabi, who is expected to serve a 32-year sentence for bank fraud, and has been accused by the US State Department for embezzling up to $2 million given to the INC by the US.

According to Stephen Zunes the Middle East editor for Foreign Policy in Focus, many in the Bush administration prefer Chalabi because he has promised "that his government would be unabashedly pro-American, implement a neoliberal economic agenda (including the denationalizing of the Iraqi oil industry presumably into the hands of US companies), and unconditionally recognize Israel."

Chalabi is not the only shady figure that the Pentagon will prefer to have influence in Iraq. The Sunday Herald interviewed Saddam Hussein's biographer Said K. Aburish, and he concluded that 75 of the 82 Iraqi opposition leaders he "interviewed were men who would kill to achieve their goal." Human rights abusers are at the top of the list to replace a US occupation figure in Iraq. General Nizar Al-Kharzraji, was the field commander who led the chemical weapons attacks against the Kurdish in 1988. Another is Brigadier-General Najib Al-Shalihi, who played a significant role in Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and crushing the Shi'a uprising that followed.

The US may have succeeded in removing Saddam and his regime from power, but until he is captured or killed he remains a dangerous figure of Arab defiance, which could undercut US political efforts. Video-tapes of Saddam, like the one released April 18, are likely to continue showing up in an attempt to antagonize the Bush administration by convincing Iraqi's he is able to outwit the world's most powerful military.

Joe Montville, director of the preventive diplomacy program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, told the Associated Press tapes like this could give "hope to remnants of Saddam's government." This means that some of Saddam's elite Special Republican Guard forces that are unaccounted for could show up as an underground guerrilla force, trying to revive Saddam's legacy.

More problematic for the US is the Shi'a groups formerly opposed to Saddam, but now boycotting any efforts by the US to install an Iraqi government. Shi'as make up 60% of the population. The Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq, the Dawa Party, and other groups that have popular support among Shi'as, reject US control in creating a new government. Dawa and SCIRI are supported and accommodated by the Iranian government. SCIRI has a militant wing, the Badr Brigade with up to 20,000 troops ready to fight the US occupiers, independent consultant Dr. Hooman Peimani stated in an Asia Times Online article.

Another disaster in the making is for the Kurds, who are likely to fight for statehood or autonomy, putting them at odds with Turkey and the US. The two major Kurdish parties, Kurdistan Democratic Party and Patriotic Union of Kurdistan have recently been working together with US Special Forces to take the oil rich cities of Mosul and Kirkuk. Turkey has warned that they will invade if the Kurds try to gain control in these cities. To avoid this and to satisfy Turkey the US has allowed Turkey to send "observers" into Kirkuk to witness Kurdish withdrawal.

There are reports that Kurds have begun taking back their homes in Kirkuk by expelling Arabs, which could lead to ethnic battles between Kurds, Arabs and Iraqi Turkmen. Increased conflict will guarantee that Turkey will invade, putting the US in a position where they will have to choose between Turkey -- a long time ally with power in the region that recently snubbed the US by refusing to allow troops use bases for the invasion of Iraq -- and the Kurds – who are currently supported by the US, but have little political power.

The Iraqi Kurdish may find other reasons to turn against the US. One reason is that the Kurdish region of northern Iraq will be under the command of the US by way the US viceroy General Moore. This will prevent the Kurds from gaining the autonomy they desire. Another reason is that the US bombardment of a militant Islamic group, Ansar al-Islam, mostly killed members of Komal a more moderate group that is at peace with the PUK. According to The Nation, Kurds are angry and confused that the US wold target an Islamic group seeking to form a coalition with the secular government." Another disastrous possibility is that the PUK and the KDP rekindle their civil war as they battle for power in the interim government.

The Bush administration's illegal and unjust war has turned into an illegal occupation that will be followed by years of violent turmoil within Iraq. Bush's so-called campaign to liberate Iraq has led to a US military-industrial occupation authority that will be met with violent opposition, while creating a power vacuum that will unleash further violence upon Iraq's devastated civil population. Bush is quoted by Bob Woodward in his book Bush at War, saying US strategy in Afghanistan "is to create chaos, to create a vacuum." This is also Bush's strategy in Iraq, and it will cause chaos to swell throughout the region.

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When Democracy Failed: The Warnings of History

(continued from page 1)

Nonetheless, he knew the terrorist was going to strike (although he didn't know where or when), and he had already considered his response. When an aide brought him word that the nation's most prestigious building was ablaze, he verified it was the terrorist who had struck and then rushed to the scene and called a press conference.

"You are now witnessing the beginning of a great epoch in history," he proclaimed, standing in front of the burned-out building, surrounded by national media. "This fire," he said, his voice trembling with emotion, "is the beginning." He used the occasion - "a sign from God," he called it - to declare an all-out war on terrorism and its ideological sponsors, a people, he said, who traced their origins to the Middle East and found motivation for their evil deeds in their religion.

Two weeks later, the first detention center for terrorists was built in Oranianberg to hold the first suspected allies of the infamous terrorist. In a national outburst of patriotism, the leader's flag was everywhere, even printed large in newspapers suitable for window display.

Within four weeks of the terrorist attack, the nation's now-popular leader had pushed through legislation - in the name of combating terrorism and fighting the philosophy he said spawned it - that suspended constitutional guarantees of free speech, privacy, and habeas corpus. Police could now intercept mail and wiretap phones; suspected terrorists could be imprisoned without specific charges and without access to their lawyers; police could sneak into people's homes without warrants if the cases involved terrorism.

To get his patriotic "Decree on the Protection of People and State" passed over the objections of concerned legislators and civil libertarians, he agreed to put a 4-year sunset provision on it: if the national emergency provoked by the terrorist attack was over by then, the freedoms and rights would be returned to the people, and the police agencies would be re-restrained. Legislators would later say they hadn't had time to read the bill before voting on it.

Immediately after passage of the anti-terrorism act, his federal police agencies stepped up their program of arresting suspicious persons and holding them without access to lawyers or courts. In the first year only a few hundred were interred, and those who objected were largely ignored by the mainstream press, which was afraid to offend and thus lose access to a leader with such high popularity ratings. Citizens who protested the leader in public - and there were many - quickly found themselves confronting the newly empowered police's batons, gas, and jail cells, or fenced off in protest zones safely out of earshot of the leader's public speeches. (In the meantime, he was taking almost daily lessons in public speaking, learning to control his tonality, gestures, and facial expressions. He became a very competent orator.)

Within the first months after that terrorist attack, at the suggestion of a political advisor, he brought a formerly obscure word into common usage. He wanted to stir a "racial pride" among his countrymen, so, instead of referring to the nation by its name, he began to refer to it as "The Homeland," a phrase publicly promoted in the introduction to a 1934 speech recorded in Leni Riefenstahl's famous propaganda movie "Triumph Of The Will." As hoped, people's hearts swelled with pride, and the beginning of an us-versus-them mentality was sewn. Our land was "the" homeland, citizens thought: all others were simply foreign lands. We are the "true people," he suggested, the only ones worthy of our nation's concern; if bombs fall on others, or human rights are violated in other nations and it makes our lives better, it's of little concern to us.

Playing on this new nationalism, and exploiting a disagreement with the French over his increasing militarism, he argued that any international body that didn't act first and foremost in the best interest of his own nation was neither relevant nor useful. He thus withdrew his country from the League Of Nations in October, 1933, and then negotiated a separate naval armaments agreement with Anthony Eden of The United Kingdom to create a worldwide military ruling elite.

His propaganda minister orchestrated a campaign to ensure the people that he was a deeply religious man and that his motivations were rooted in Christianity. He even proclaimed the need for a revival of the Christian faith across his nation, what he called a "New Christianity." Every man in his rapidly growing army wore a belt buckle that declared "Gott Mit Uns" - God Is With Us - and most of them fervently believed it was true.

Within a year of the terrorist attack, the nation's leader determined that the various local police and federal agencies around the nation were lacking the clear communication and overall coordinated administration necessary to deal with the terrorist threat facing the nation, particularly those citizens who were of Middle Eastern ancestry and thus probably terrorist and communist sympathizers, and various troublesome "intellectuals" and "liberals." He proposed a single new national agency to protect the security of the homeland, consolidating the actions of dozens of previously independent police, border, and investigative agencies under a single leader.

He appointed one of his most trusted associates to be leader of this new agency, the Central Security Office for the homeland, and gave it a role in the government equal to the other major departments.

His assistant who dealt with the press noted that, since the terrorist attack, "Radio and press are at our disposal." Those voices questioning the legitimacy of their nation's leader, or raising questions about his checkered past, had by now faded from the public's recollection as his central security office began advertising a program encouraging people to phone in tips about suspicious neighbors. This program was so successful that the names of some of the people "denounced" were soon being broadcast on radio stations. Those denounced often included opposition politicians and celebrities who dared speak out - a favorite target of his regime and the media he now controlled through intimidation and ownership by corporate allies.

To consolidate his power, he concluded that government alone wasn't enough. He reached out to industry and forged an alliance, bringing former executives of the nation's largest corporations into high government positions. A flood of government money poured into corporate coffers to fight the war against the Middle Eastern ancestry terrorists lurking within the homeland, and to prepare for wars overseas. He encouraged large corporations friendly to him to acquire media outlets and other industrial concerns across the nation, particularly those previously owned by suspicious people of Middle Eastern ancestry. He built powerful alliances with industry; one corporate ally got the lucrative contract worth millions to build the first large-scale detention center for enemies of the state. Soon more would follow. Industry flourished.

But after an interval of peace following the terrorist attack, voices of dissent again arose within and without the government. Students had started an active program opposing him (later known as the White Rose Society), and leaders of nearby nations were speaking out against his bellicose rhetoric. He needed a diversion, something to direct people away from the corporate cronyism being exposed in his own government, questions of his possibly illegitimate rise to power, and the oft-voiced concerns of civil libertarians about the people being held in detention without due process or access to attorneys or family.

With his number two man - a master at manipulating the media - he began a campaign to convince the people of the nation that a small, limited war was necessary. Another nation was harboring many of the suspicious Middle Eastern people, and even though its connection with the terrorist who had set afire the nation's most important building was tenuous at best, it held resources their nation badly needed if they were to have room to live and maintain their prosperity. He called a press conference and publicly delivered an ultimatum to the leader of the other nation, provoking an international uproar. He claimed the right to strike preemptively in self-defense, and nations across Europe - at first - denounced him for it, pointing out that it was a doctrine only claimed in the past by nations seeking worldwide empire, like Caesar's Rome or Alexander's Greece.

It took a few months, and intense international debate and lobbying with European nations, but, after he personally met with the leader of the United Kingdom, finally a deal was struck. After the military action began, Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain told the nervous British people that giving in to this leader's new first-strike doctrine would bring "peace for our time." Thus Hitler annexed Austria in a lightning move, riding a wave of popular support as leaders so often do in times of war. The Austrian government was unseated and replaced by a new leadership friendly to Germany, and German corporations began to take over Austrian resources.

In a speech responding to critics of the invasion, Hitler said, "Certain foreign newspapers have said that we fell on Austria with brutal methods. I can only say; even in death they cannot stop lying. I have in the course of my political struggle won much love from my people, but when I crossed the former frontier [into Austria] there met me such a stream of love as I have never experienced. Not as tyrants have we come, but as liberators."

To deal with those who dissented from his policies, at the advice of his politically savvy advisors, he and his handmaidens in the press began a campaign to equate him and his policies with patriotism and the nation itself. National unity was essential, they said, to ensure that the terrorists or their sponsors didn't think they'd succeeded in splitting the nation or weakening its will. In times of war, they said, there could be only "one people, one nation, and one commander-in-chief" ("Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Fuhrer"), and so his advocates in the media began a nationwide campaign charging that critics of his policies were attacking the nation itself. Those questioning him were labeled "anti-German" or "not good Germans," and it was suggested they were aiding the enemies of the state by failing in the patriotic necessity of supporting the nation's valiant men in uniform. It was one of his most effective ways to stifle dissent and pit wage-earning people (from whom most of the army came) against the "intellectuals and liberals" who were critical of his policies.

Nonetheless, once the "small war" annexation of Austria was successfully and quickly completed, and peace returned, voices of opposition were again raised in the Homeland. The almost-daily release of news bulletins about the dangers of terrorist communist cells wasn't enough to rouse the populace and totally suppress dissent. A full-out war was necessary to divert public attention from the growing rumbles within the country about disappearing dissidents; violence against liberals, Jews, and union leaders; and the epidemic of crony capitalism that was producing empires of wealth in the corporate sector but threatening the middle class's way of life.

A year later, to the week, Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia; the nation was now fully at war, and all internal dissent was suppressed in the name of national security. It was the end of Germany's first experiment with democracy.

As we conclude this review of history, there are a few milestones worth remembering.

(continued next page)

(continued from page 8)

February 27, 2003, was the 70th anniversary of Dutch terrorist Marinus van der Lubbe's successful firebombing of the German Parliament (Reichstag) building, the terrorist act that catapulted Hitler to legitimacy and reshaped the German constitution. By the time of his successful and brief action to seize Austria, in which almost no German blood was shed, Hitler was the most beloved and popular leader in the history of his nation. Hailed around the world, he was later Time magazine's "Man Of The Year."

Most Americans remember his office for the security of the homeland, known as the Reichssicherheitshauptamt and its SchutzStaffel, simply by its most famous agency's initials: the SS.

We also remember that the Germans developed a new form of highly violent warfare they named "lightning war" or blitzkrieg, which, while generating devastating civilian losses, also produced a highly desirable "shock and awe" among the nation's leadership according to the authors of the 1996 book "Shock And Awe" published by the National Defense University Press.

Reflecting on that time, The American Heritage Dictionary (Houghton Mifflin Company, 1983) left us this definition of the form of government the German democracy had become through Hitler's close alliance with the largest German corporations and his policy of using war as a tool to keep power: "fas-cism (fbsh'iz'em) n. A system of government that exercises a dictatorship of the extreme right, typically through the merging of state and business leadership, together with belligerent nationalism."

Today, as we face financial and political crises, it's useful to remember that the ravages of the Great Depression hit Germany and the United States alike. Through the 1930s, however, Hitler and Roosevelt chose very different courses to bring their nations back to power and prosperity.

Germany's response was to use government to empower corporations and reward the society's richest individuals, privatize much of the commons, stifle dissent, strip people of constitutional rights, and create an illusion of prosperity through continual and ever-expanding war. America passed minimum wage laws to raise the middle class, enforced anti-trust laws to diminish the power of corporations, increased taxes on corporations and the wealthiest individuals, created Social Security, and became the employer of last resort through programs to build national infrastructure, promote the arts, and replant forests.

To the extent that our Constitution is still intact, the choice is again ours.

Thom Hartmann lived and worked in Germany during the 1980s, and is the author of over a dozen books, including "Unequal Protection" and "The Last Hours of Ancient Sunlight." This article is copyright by Thom Hartmann, but permission is granted for reprint in print, email, blog, or web media so long as this credit is attached.

War and Occupation: The Future of the World?

Ron Jacobs

I write this as the battle for Baghdad (or perhaps the siege of Baghdad) begins to take shape. It's looks pretty likely that the US's overwhelming killing machine will eventually destroy the regime, either by destroying most of Iraq or by making life so miserable for the Iraqis that the military will surrender. The occupation, however, is certain to be a different matter. Once Hussein is gone from power, there are bound to be several factions vying for power in Iraq. Amongst these various factions will be the occupying forces of the United States military. Iraqis intent on revenge for years of sanctions, support of the Hussein government, and other US misdeeds are bound to exact some kind of punishment on the Americans. Whether or not that revenge actually organizes itself into some kind of resistance force is another question, which is currently unanswerable from this vantage point. If one looks at recent (and current) military occupations, there is one common denominator: popular resistance. In Palestine that resistance has run the gamut from nonviolent protest and direct action to suicide attacks and military action. In Kosovo and other regions of the former Yugoslavia, the scenario was pretty much the same. In Chechnya, the resistance has been more organized and, consequently, much more like what we consider to be a war. In other words, the military power has shifted from the occupier to the resistance and back again. In Afghanistan, it seems that the Chechnya model is beginning to formulate itself.

Reading Iraqi history, we find this little note regarding the British occupation of the Iraqi nation during the 1920s- "Churchill believed that the country could be cheaply policed by aircraft armed with gas bombs, supported by as few as 4,000 British and 10,000 (colonial) Indian troops" (from Air Power and Colonial Control: The Royal Air Force, 1919-1939, David E. Omissi, 1990). Churchill was wrong. The Iraqis eventually drove the British from the country. The US strategists are saying today that they don't believe they will need to capture or kill the entire Hussein government before they can occupy the country. Indeed, certain news agencies are reporting that some members of the administration don't even believe that Baghdad needs to be controlled. This type of thinking is reminiscent of the British imperial arrogance that brought down their empire. Need I say more?

It is too early to speculate what truly lies ahead for the GIs in Iraq (and those on their way), but I think it is safe to say their job will continue to be bloody and dirty. One can only hope that those who have moral qualms about occupying another country at gunpoint will act on those qualms and refuse to serve. One also hopes that the opposition we have created to the war will continue to protest as the occupiers attempt to impose their will on the Iraqi people. Besides the occupation, one can be relatively certain that the administration will continue its plans to make war on other countries that oppose its plans for conquest.

Come Senators, Congressmen, Please Heed the Call, Don't Stand in the Doorway, Don't Block up the Hall The antiwar movement cannot roll over. The fact that a bloody war is being fought in Iraq (and elsewhere) despite our incredible opposition around the world does not mean that we have failed. It only means we have not fought hard enough, nor have we reached enough of the world's people. Furthermore, it means we must expand our reach, our tactics and our strategies to make the movement against war and occupation a movement that no government can ignore. In the US, this means that every presidential candidate must take a position on the war and occupation and answer for that position at the polls. Every Senator and Congressman who voted for the war and its funding must pay for it at election time. This is not just a question of right vs. wrong. It is a matter of life and death. The cost to the politicians must be such that they will oppose this war or lose their jobs.

Politicians may not be good for much, but they do serve as useful foci for raising the issues that need to be raised. Antiwar folks who are electorally inclined must run for office. The rest of us must organize, march, sit-in, and do whatever else to make the war and occupation a major issue in the political life of America. Citizens of other countries should take comparable actions in their nations. Even though the diplomatic battles in the UN before the war began were largely the result of differing commercial interests in Iraq and the Middle East, they would not have widened to the point they are currently at without the pressures applied by the antiwar protests. The fact that the antiwar movement was able to widen the fissures between the large capitalist nations is a victory of sorts. One hopes the space created by this split among these governments can be filled by those of us who honestly oppose Washington's wars and the economics that drives them.

The man in line for the main administrator of Iraq's postwar occupation government, Ret. General Jay Garner, is a public supporter of the Israeli policy of expansion and an executive (currently on leave) of the defense contractor L-3 Communications. His job in Iraq will be to help "introduce a capitalist system where there's been central-control socialism since the 1960s," according to Ariel Cohen of the Heritage Foundation. As any student of right wing think tanks knows, this foundation supports the Sharon government in Israel and the expansion of US corporate power around the globe via military force. The other countries in the Middle East are very interested in Iraq's future. After all, it could very well be their own. Iran and Syria are under increasing threats from the US. Saudi Arabia is in disfavor with the current administration in Washington, and Jordan and Egypt find themselves stuck between their allegiance to US aid and the anger of their people over the US presence in the region.

If the occupation succeeds in Iraq, one can be pretty certain that US hawks will want to attempt a similar scenario elsewhere, beginning with those countries currently in Bush and Rumsfeld's "axis of evil." The scenes of death and destruction we are seeing from Iraq will pale besides those that could come from the future wars of the madmen and women in Washington, DC. We have no choice but to oppose their occupation and their wars. They must be stopped.

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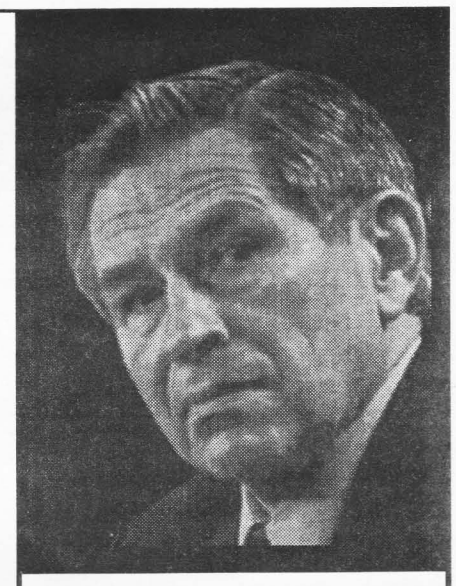
Introducing KNOW MORE'S "Evil-Doer" for May

Paul Wolfowitz, Bush's Deputy Secretary of Defense



Nancy West

Baghdad has fallen. The Iraqis have been liberated. There is dancing in the streets. Pictures and statues of Saddam are torn down (with a little help from the liberators). Well, at least this is the scene presently being broadcast to the western world. Behind the scenes things are somewhat different. Hundreds of wounded and dead arrive at the hospitals at a rate faster than the medical personnel can keep up with. Halls and rooms are filled with the injured. Many are too seriously wounded to feel the degradation of lying on stretchers still sticky with the blood of those whose lives were cut short in the name of liberty. Fortunately, those who were liberated through death don't feel the humiliation of being piled in a heap on the back of a truck because the morgues are full to overflowing. Where will their final resting place be? Will they be placed in a grave below a well-manicured lawn? Will their national flag be placed on their caskets? Who will play taps for them?

The man behind the liberation of these people, the main instigator and architect of their liberation is Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Secretary of Defense and Know More's Evil Doer for the month of May.

Wolfowitz and others of his ilk are intent on liberating the Iraqis of their sovereignty and their resources. Bush and Powell, at first hesitant, but under the persuasive influence of the Wolfowitz cabal soon "understood" the importance of preemptively invading this sovereign nation. After all, they are the terrorists who attacked symbols of the economic strength and military power in the United States, aren't they? It has been reported that 40% of Americans believe this is true. Wolfowitz and associates are trying to make them and us believe that by the U.S. liberating the Iraqi people, safety, freedom and democracy will prevail. As of the writing of this article, what prevails is a country without law and order, a confused, hungry and thirsty populace and invading, excuse me, I mean liberating armed forces. Iraq's new government designed and handpicked by none other than the Wolfowitz bunch, patiently wait in Kuwait until order is restored. These new appointees will take up their task of bringing democracy to this country as soon as the invading forces inform them that it is safe for them to do so. With so many Iraqi officials and military unaccounted for, it may be a while before this happens. And isn't it curious how they all seem to have suddenly disappeared into thin air. Maybe someone should remind Wolfowitz, his boss and the Prez that under the Geneva Conventions it is up to the occupying forces to impose law and order.

Wolfowitz' boss, Donald Rumsfeld, said the following about the utter chaos that Iraq has become. "It's untidy. And freedom's untidy. And free people are free to make mistakes and commit crimes and do bad things. They're also free to live their lives and do wonderful things. And that's what's going to happen here." Right at this moment those are probably not very reassuring words for the citizens of liberated Iraq. They might want to look to the liberated people of Afghanistan to find out what to expect in their future.

We are told over and over that the liberation of Iraq's oil is NOT what this war is about. It is still hard to hang on to this "truth" when it is recognized that although the U.S. Military does not have the manpower or the orders from above to take control of the cities that are in major turmoil and chaos and to protect Iraq's priceless antiquities, they have been able to send 2,000 troops to secure the oil fields effectively bringing them under the protection and control of the United States and Britain.

This preemptive invasion of Iraq is not about fighting terrorism and was not triggered by the events of September 11th. It is certainly not about liberating and bringing democracy to the people of Iraq. It is the first step in the implementation of a policy known as the Wolfowitz Doctrine, the basic ideas of which originated years before the World Trade Towers fell. Over 10 years ago a classified Pentagon memo written by Wolfowitz asserted the importance of a U.S. policy based on maintaining an overwhelming global dominance in order to prevent "potential competitors from even aspiring to a larger regional or global role." The destruction of possible rivals should be the "dominant consideration underlying the new regional defense strategy and require[s] that we endeavor to prevent any hostile power from dominating a region whose resources would, under consolidated control, be sufficient to generate global power. These regions include Western Europe, East Asia, the territory of the former Soviet Union, and Southwest Asia." U.S. troops protecting Iraq's oil fields instead of Iraq's cities, museums, libraries and people is the Wolfowitz Doctrine in action.

As the final lines of this article are being written, the few Iraqis dancing in the streets and celebrating their liberation have turned into large numbers of Iraqis questioning the cost of their liberation. They are coming to the realization that they have traded in a cruel dictator for a greedy colonial oppressor. Already this realization is leading to the organization of internal resistance groups who are determined to define their own future. Tens of thousands of Iraqi citizens protested in the streets of Baghdad chanting "No to America. We want an Islamic state." The British journalist Robert Fisk "make[s] an awful prediction. That America's war of 'liberation' is over. Iraq's war of liberation from the Americans is about to begin. In other words, the real and frightening story starts now."

"This preemptive invasion of Iraq...is the first step in the implementation of a policy known as the Wolfowitz Doctrine...Over 10 years ago a classified Pentagon memo written by Wolfowitz asserted the importance of a U.S. policy based on maintaining an overwhelming global dominance..."

Bio in Brief

- Under Reagan, Wolfowitz served as Director of Policy Planning for the Department of State and then Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. In 1986 he was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia.
- Under George H.W. Bush he served as the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.
- During the Clinton administration Wolfowitz was the Dean of the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies and a founding member of the Project for a New American Century.
- He has received several awards including the President's Citizen's Medal in 1991, the State Department Distinguished Service Medal in 1986 and the Defense Department Distinguished Civilian Service Medal in 1980.
- Born in New York in 1946
- Received Bachelor's degree from Cornell University, Master's and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.
- Resides in Maryland and has three children

Help Wanted

Works In Progress is seeking an Editor, or Editing Team

This person or team will work closely with our coordinator(s) and proofreaders. They will proofread and edit articles when necessary, choose pull quotes, choose titles when not supplied by the author, obtain images to go with articles when possible, choose which articles to lead with, and what will go on the front and back covers.

If you are interested in doing part or all of this position, or for more information, please contact us at wip@olywa.net

No experience necessary
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Olympia Conference/ Arts Center

Phyllis Booth

Dream list for Olympia residents: low income housing? swimming pool? new library? new police station? homeless shelter? arts culture center? new city hall?

No it's a conference/arts center! Olympia's expensive city consultants have said the conference/arts center will cost $410,000 every year just to operate. That cost is more than $1,100 a day to operate. Who is going to be able to rent it? City officials are not saying what the acutal fees are now.

A group called "Public Funds for Public Purposes" (PFFPP) supports Olympia city councilmembers Matthew Green and Laura Ware in their opposition to the conference/arts center. PFFPP asks the question, "If conference centers are so profitable, why doesn't private industry pay for them?" City of Olympia's own consultants have confirmed that conference centers are net losses to city budgets. That's why private industry wants taxpayers to pay for them. Private industry profits and taxpayers pay.

"If conference centers are so profitable, why doesn't private industry pay for them?"

An Oregon-based company .called VIPS Hotel's is partnering with the City of Olympia to build a conference/arts center next to the Phoenix Inn in downtown Olympia. VIPS will build the conference/arts center with its own money, and the City of Olympia will buy it at a maximum price. No public bidding on the project, as VIPS will have control. Olympia and Thurston County taxpayers, for 25 years, will get stuck with the bill in the form of bonds and for Olympia residents an extra $410,000 every year in operating costs for the conference/arts center. Olympia councilwoman Laura Ware has predicted that the conference/arts center "will drain" the city budget for the next 25 years. How to Help Public Funds for Public Purposes is circulating a petiton to call for a public vote on the conference/arts center.

Olympia residents have not been offered a chance to vote on it. So far we have collected 1,350 signatures. We need 5,000 signatures. We need people to testify against the conference/arts center at City Hall meetings on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at City Hall. When people testify, the testimony provides a legal record for the city as well as the group protesting. Emailing the city at citycouncil@ci.olympia.wa.us also provides a legal record. Please call 753-3736 for more information on how to help us.

On the Other Side

What's wrong with a conference/arts center? Doesn't Olympia need meeting space? Won't the conference/arts center bring in needed business downtown and thus more tax revenue? Yes and no. As with any project, you have to look at the costs versus the benefits. Three expensive studies done in 1998, 2000, and 2003 by the City of the Olympia concluded a conference center will be a net loss or in my words "money pit." Furthermore, Richard Cushing, Olympia City manager, has written that the city's revenues are not keeping pace with the city's growth. He states that in order for the City to have a conference center that they have to determine what is a priority and to make financial decisions based on that priority. City officials have indicated that the conference/arts center will be paid for by funds that are now funding Procession of the Species, the Children's Museum, the Bigelow House, the Olympia Film society and other worthy non-profits.

If the conference/arts center becomes a reality, what's going to fund the non-profits that our city currently enjoys? And on a more practical note, as the conference/arts center takes local sales dollars, are there going to be enough tax dollars for Olympia's more basic needs like road repair, water quality, etc?

Announcements, etc.

(continued)

WHAT: FREE Public Forum on "Ecopsychology - Deepening Our Relationship with Nature" given by therapist/speaker Leif Tellmann MA, ADTR.

WHEN: May 14th, 2003, Wednesday, 7:00 PM.

WHERE: Traditions Café, 5th and Water St., Olympia, 705-2819.

WHO: Sponsored by the Olympia Chapter of the NW Earth Institute. For more info call 705-2884.

Ecopsychology offers a philosophical and practical base for deep systemic change in the way we live and in the way we view the world,

Through its recognition of our relationship with Nature as a primary relationship in our lives. By melding the fields of psychology and ecology, ecopsychology explores the connections between our inner nature and the larger outer Nature as a way to expand both psychology and ecology. Join us for an evening of lecture, discussion, and experiential fun as we explore the field of ecopsychology and some of its practical applications in the world today.

Democracy Now! Update

Democracy Now!, an invaluable tool for growing and strengthening the movement for real democracy, justice and peace is now airing 2 consecutive hours of news and analysis the corporate media will not give you.

There are several ways to tune into DN! (Mon-Fri) in our area:

* Listen to KAOS (89.3 FM) from 8 – 10 AM

* Watch or set your VCR to TCTV channel 22 or 29 (depending on region) for 5 -7AM

* Catch One Hour at 4PM on TCTV (channel 22 or 29)

* Listen to 91.3 FM between 12 -2PM (Olympia area only)

* DirectTV, channel 9415 airs DN every morning at 8 AM.

* Or listen on-line at www.democracynow.org .

SOUTH SOUND
GREEN PAGES
South Sound's Monthly Environmental Newspaper

Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.

209 East 4th Ave., Suite 206
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 786-6349
speech@olywa.net www.olywa.net/speech

A World without Wars is Possible:
A community forum on alternatives to war
May 10, 2003
at The Evergreen State College
Library Building 4300
From 9 am to 5 PM
followed by potluck.

A one day forum with community leaders and groups to reflect, strategize, and identify actions, projects and other local alternatives to the context of war and the effects of current economic policies on our communities.

Community Potluck and cultural event with local band start at 5:30 to 9:00 PM. Please bring a dish to share.

For more information please contact: Lucilene Whitesell at 867-6055

Event sponsors: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace, Olympians for Peace in the Middle East, LASO, MeCha, The Labor Center, Olympia Food Coop, Media Island Institute, United for Peace Thurston-County, NW Social Forum.

Thurston County CROPWALK 2003

The 22nd Annual Thurston County CROPWALK will be held Sunday, May 4th at 1:30 pm (with registration beginning at 12:30 pm). The 10k walk/run raises money to fight hunger around the world with 25% of the funds going to local hunger agencies in Thurston County. CROPWALK 2003 will start from the Temple of Justice at the Capitol grounds this year and go past the Farmers Market to East Bay Drive and Priest Point Park and back. Over $32,000 was raised last year and estimates are that world hunger has been reduced from 33% to 20% in the past 25 years. YOU can become a part of ending hunger in your lifetime by walking or running any portion of the 10k event!

State workers who want to walk or run can pick up pledge forms at local churches or faith groups or by calling Associated Ministries at 360-357-7224 for more information. CROPWALK is affiliated with Church World Service which assists in farming education, hunger relief in disasters, removing land mines, AIDS education, and has turned weapons into farm tools in South Africa. Currently work is underway in the Middle East feeding refugees from the war in Iraq. CROPWALK also assisted families of the Oklahoma City bombing for 4 1/2 years and is now assisting victim's families of the September 11th attacks. More information is on the websites of www.cropwalk.org or www.churchworldservice.org.

Thank you for your support – Dave Groves, Dept. of Licensing Employee and Publicity Volunteer for CROPWALK 2003 – To volunteer call 357-7224 or 943-6235.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1

Women in Black
&
When Democracy Failed

4

Stop them before
they kill again

6

Plowshares: After the Trial

7

The Iraq Situation

9

War and Occupation
The Future of the World?

10

Know More's
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Works In Progress
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